

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 127426

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PINT, PEPR, ETRD, SOPN

SUBJECT: EA/ROC WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

1. THE TRIP AND THE INAUGURAL (CONFIDENTIAL)

THE CONJUNCTION OF BRZEZINSKI'S TRIP WITH OUR ANNOUNCEMENT

OF PLANS TO CLOSE TWO ICA CULTURAL CENTERS AND OTHER
ACTIONS HAVE CONVINCED TAIWAN THAT OUR NORMALIZATION
POLICY IS ONCE MORE ON THE MOVE BUT HAVE NOT SPARKED
ANXIETY ABOUT IMMINENT NORMALIZATION AS WAS THE CASE
PRIOR TO SECRETARY VANCE'S AUGUST 1977 VISIT.

CRITICISM OF THE COINCIDENCE OF BRZEZINSKI'S PEKING
ARRIVAL WITH PRESIDENT-ELECT CHIANG'S INAUGURAL CONTINUES
TO BE VOICED BY A VARIETY OF AMERICANS INCLUDING SENATOR
GOLDWATER, SOME TWO DOZEN CONGRESSMEN, COLUMNIST GEORGE
WILL AND THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN TAIPEI.
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THE CONSERVATIVE CAUCUS IN WASHINGTON IS REPORTEDLY
ORGANIZING A SMALL DELEGATION TO CCK'S INAUGURAL LED BY
SENATOR HAYAKAWA AND NEW HAMPSHIRE GOVERNOR THOMPSON
WHICH WOULD REPRESENT "THE TRUE FEELINGS OF THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE TOWARD THEIR MOST LOYAL ALLY AND FRIEND".

2. ICA CULTURAL CENTERS (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF PLANS TO CLOSE THE ICA CULTURAL CENTERS IN TAINAN AND TAICHUNG, ICA IS MOVING AHEAD WITH PLANS TO TURN THE TWO LIBRARY COLLECTIONS OVER TO LOCAL INSTITUTIONS AND TO RETAIN ONE CHINESE EMPLOYEE IN TAICHUNG AS A LIAISON OFFICER FOR CENTRAL TAIWAN. ICA IS ALSO FOLLOWING UP ON A SUGGESTION FROM THE MAYOR OF TAINAN THAT THE CITY MIGHT CONTINUE OPERATION OF THE CENTER AS A LOCAL INSTITUTION.

MEANWHILE MOFA CONTINUES TO STIMULATE AND PLAY UP OPPOSITION TO THE CLOSURES FROM PRIVATE AMERICANS ON TAIWAN AND TO DISTRIBUTE THEIR VIEWS THROUGH ITS INFORMATION OFFICES IN THE U.S. THUS FAR, THE ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN PICKED UP BY THE U.S. PRESS OR PUBLIC.

3. US/ROC BILATERAL TRADE TALKS (UNCLASSIFIED)

ROC DEPUTY MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, Y. T. WONG AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ROC DELEGATION ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON OVER THE WEEKEND FOR THE FIRST ROUND OF US-ROC BILATERAL TRADE TALKS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 22-23. ASSISTANT SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE STEPHEN LANDE WILL HEAD THE U.S. SIDE. THE TALKS ARE BEING HELD IN PARALLEL WITH THE MTN NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA AND ARE EXPECTED TO RECONVENE IN TWO TO THREE WEEKS AFTER

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EACH SIDE HAS HAD THE CHANCE TO REVIEW THE OTHER'S OFFERS.

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